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## NANKING FACTORY MAKES TRIODE VACUUM TUBES

Nanking -- The local vacuum tube factory has succeeded in producing 101Ftype triode vacuum tubes and 3F2 special type bulbs. The triode tubes are to be used as amplifiers in connection with long distance radio telephony. The 3F2 special bulbs are to be used as ballast tubes to regulate the fluctuation of current. Formerly these tubes had to be imported from abroad, but due to the blockade, it is now almost impossible to secure them from abroad. Triode vacuum tubes must have the capacity to maintain stable oscillation and must have a life of over 2,500 hours. The 3F2 tubes must be able to keep the fluctuation in filament current within a range of 4 percent when the line voltage varies from 3 to 10 volts.

The engineers and technicians met and overcame many difficulties. For instance, as a substitute for the nickel alloy filaments, they successfully used tungsten. For the "getter" in creating the proper vacuum, they used a compound of aluminum and barium. For the filament-supporting stem, they used Chinese-made and processed aluminum glass.

Experiments and tests have been going on for over 3 months, but after many failures, success was achieved last month. This achievement will not only make China independent of imported tubes, but the product is superior to the foreign articles, since the Chinese-made triode vacuum tubes have a life of much more than 2,500 hours, and the 3F2 tubes regulate fluctuation of current within 2 percent. These tubes are now in production in the Nanking factory where they will be made in large quantities to meet telecommunication

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